

Message Text

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13
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

TRSE-00 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 /067 W
----- 123212

R 161805Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1216
INFO AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL TURIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 18730

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJECT: COMMENTS OF LEADING SOCIALIST ON PCI AND PCI-PSI
RELATIONS

1. DURING VISIT TO MILAN AND TURIN NOVEMBER 8-11, ECMIN CALLED ON BANKER WHO IS MEMBER OF PSI CENTRAL COMMITTEE WITH PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. DURING CONVERSATION, SOURCE COMMENTED ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF PCI AND ON RELATIONS BETWEEN PCI AND PSI.

2. ACCORDING TO SOURCE'S "PCI FRIENDS", RECENT DIFFERENCE OF OPINION WITHIN PCI BETWEEN AMENDOLA AND LONGO (ROME 17336) WAS VERY DEEP AND SPLIT, HAD PERSONAL ASPECT AS WELL. SOURCE QUOTED HIS FRIENDS AS SAYING THERE WAS NOW EVEN TALK OF "CORRENTI" (FACTIONS) WITHIN PCI. PCI SECRETARY BERLINGUER MUST NOW DEVOTE STRENUOUS EFFORTS ON ALMOST DAILY BASIS TO KEEPING THE PARTY TOGETHER. SOURCE DISAGREED WITH THEORY THAT AMENDOLA HAS LITTLE SUPPORT WITHIN PCI AND THUS HIS VIEWS ESSENTIALLY ONLY HIS OWN. SOURCE CLAIMED THAT AMENDOLA HAD THE SUPPORT, INTER ALIA, OF "THE ECONOMISTS" IN PCI, WHICH IS NOT INSUBSTANTIAL FORCE.

3. SOURCE AGREED WITH ECMIN'S ASSESSMENT THAT, AT LEAST AS
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REFLECTED IN THE PRESS, PCI AND PSI WERE MOVING SOMEWHAT

CLOSER TOGETHER ON ECONOMIC ISSUES AND THAT PCI (BUT NOT PSI)
WAS SEEKING TO PORTRAY THE TWO PARTIES AS COORDINATING THEIR
ECONOMIC POLICIES. SOURCE TERMED MEETING OF ECONOMIC EXPERTS
OF THE PARTIES ON NOVEMBER 6 AS BEING NOT COORDINATION OF
POLICIES (AS UNITA SUGGESTED) BUT RATHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS
("CONFRONTO"), WHICH HE TERMED USEFUL EXERCISE. VOLPE

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